

## Acton Accepts \$87,640 Tender

ACTON — Council accepted the tender of Godson Contractors of Toronto for the storm sewer installation and paving of the Glenlea area at a tender price of \$87,640.99 upon the recommendation of the roads committee last week.

Ten tenders submitted for study by the roads committee ranged from the accepted price of \$87,640.99 to the high of \$124,663.45, it was noted by the chairman's report.

Before final approval was given councillor B. D. Rachlin asked what portion of the project was payable by the town and deputy-reeve J. Greer explained that approximately \$40,000 would be the town's portion of the cost with the balance being taken care of by grants.

### HE'S DEAD

A case for fast driving? No sir and especially not in winter. Oh sure, the fast driver gets to his destination in better time. But many times, when he gets there—**MAN ALIVE, HE'S DEAD!**

## Several Rabid Foxes Reported in Acton Area

ACTON—Laboratory reports on several foxes showed proof of rabies, veterinarian F. G. Oakes reports. Several foxes have attacked dogs in the area. Some of the foxes were killed and tests made.

On Sunday, December 7, a fox attacked two dogs at the farm of S. Didero, R. R. 2, Acton, and was killed by the dogs. Dr. Oakes was called to the farm home and immediately vaccinated the dogs and placed them under quarantine.

The fox head was sent to the Dominion Laboratory in Hull and a report showed the fox to be rabid.

### At Disposal Plant

Friday, December 12, a rabid fox acting strangely, approached town workers at the disposal plant. They immediately backed the animal into a culvert until a gun was secured and the animal shot.

The carcass was brought to town to Dr. Oakes, who sent the head to the lab for tests.

To date no report has been received on the animal but the veterinarian noted it was unusual for a fox to remain and battle with humans or dogs.

Dr. Oakes also reported receiving several calls from district residents who had seen foxes in their yards.

### Fox Bites Dog

Last week a dog at the farm of Ken Murray on the Blue Springs line west of Acton was so badly bitten by a fox, it had to be destroyed, reported Dr. Oakes. Before it could be killed, the fox trotted back into the bush.

Also last week, a call was received by the local veterinarian from Mrs. Gordon Leslie on the first line of Erin township, north of Acton, reporting a fox fighting outside her kitchen window with the family dog.

The woman was advised to either do away with the family pet or have it penned up until proof could be obtained if the vaccination it received at a local clinic last weekend would have given the dog sufficient immunity.

In the latter case, the fox escaped into the bush again before it could be caught.

## Santa Willing Fills Shoes, Too

The use of stockings as receptacles for gifts from Santa Claus can be traced to an ancient legend. The story goes that the jovial driver of the reindeer dropped some gold coins down a chimney one night. Instead of falling on the hearth, the money dropped into a stocking which had been left by the fireside to dry.

In some parts of Europe stockings are hung on St. Andrew's Day, November 30, or for St. Barbara on Epiphany.

In certain sections of France and Germany wooden shoes, instead of stockings, are put out to be filled.

Canada's northland, that is the space north of the 55th parallel, comprises two thirds of the country.

### Attacked Geese

Later that evening, Ralph McKeown, R. R. 3, Acton, killed a fox attacking geese on his farm. It was thought to be rabid.

Hearing a commotion, Mr. McKeown noticed the fox. He grabbed a shovel and beat the animal to death. The carcass was taken to Dr. Oakes, who sent the head to the laboratory for examination.

Mr. McKeown stated the fox had been seen around the school in the area of his farm. He believes it to be the same one noticed on the Leslie farm.

## Clerks, Treasurers Plan Talk on Arrears

The regular meeting of the Halton County Clerks and Treasurers Association was held in the Milton Court House on November 19.

Members present were: D. W. Farmer, W. K. Sims, Burlington; S. A. Featherstone, J. B. Gray, Trafalgar; Garfield Brown and M. Maxted, County of Halton.

The members were very disappointed at the small attendance and some discussion followed as to how they might obtain a better attendance at the meetings. It was agreed that the December meeting should be dispensed with and beginning with January that each member be asked to send in suggestions as to topic they would like discussed and possibly speakers that they would like to hear.

Mr. Sims suggested that at the January meeting a speaker might be obtained from the Department or from some other municipality to outline the procedure under the new tax arrears system. It was also suggested that each member should feel free to bring with him any member of his staff whom he felt might benefit from the discussions at the meetings.

Mr. Featherstone presented a statement from the Township of Trafalgar re sales tax exemptions. Mr. Farmer stated that following the last meeting the Burlington office had checked their invoices and obtained credit on several items which were exempt from tax.

Considerable discussion followed as to the best method of handling chronic indigents registered under the Hospital Commission and it was pointed out that if these registrations were not accepted by the Commission if these patients were in licensed nursing homes 30% of the cost could be collected from the Province from April 1st, 1958.

## Nine Hours of Feasting Followed by Big Snack

In olden times at Christmas dinners in England, there was a huge baron of beef at one end of the table, and a haunch of venison at the other, and in between the table groaned under the weight of enormous platters of meat and fish. A knight had to use his knife-of-all-work to cut up the meat of the lady next to him.

Even in mid-Victorian England a gentleman was supposed to cut up the meat for his fair partner. But in the middle ages it was quite proper for guests to eat with their fingers, as knives and forks were rare.

### Hounds Feast, Too

Queen Elizabeth the First and her father, Henry the Eighth are said to have had a habit of tossing bones and scraps of meat over their shoulders to hounds which were in the room. Instead of using napkins, the diners dried their fingers on their clothes or waved them in the air.

After nine hours of feasting, they might adjourn to the drawing-room for a midnight snack which might include a barrel of oysters with pheasants on the side, washed down by big bowls of hot punch.



**Season's Greetings**

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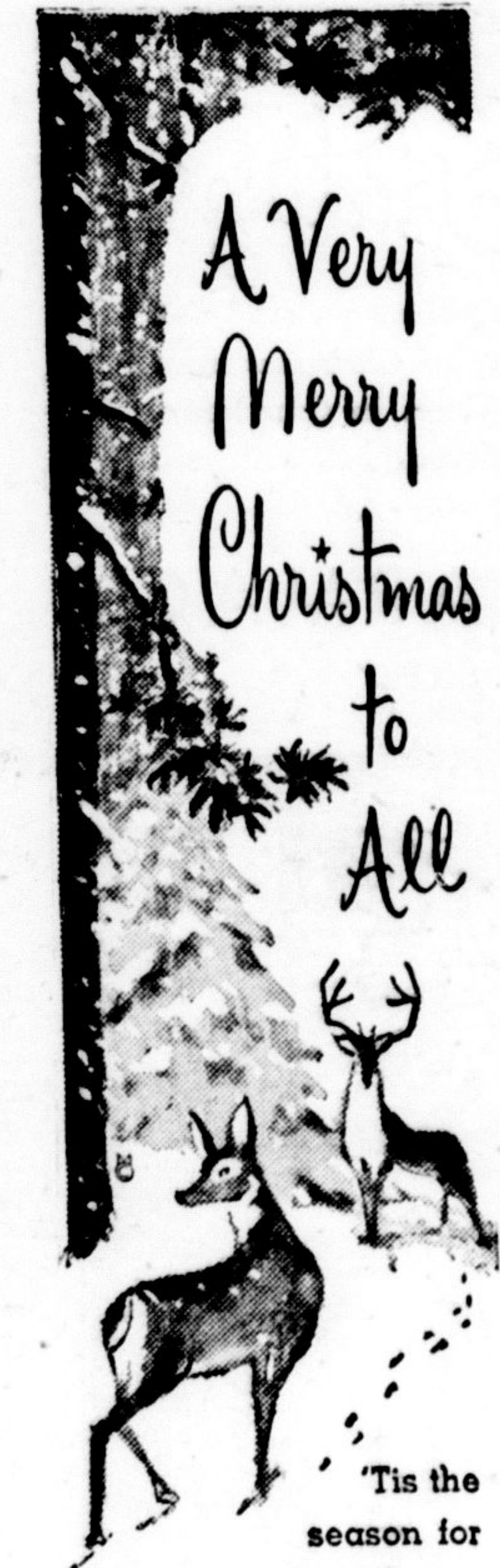
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